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BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH.



Annual Report

ON

The Health of the Borough

For the Year 1925,

AND

Five-Year Survey.

FALMOUTH.

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BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH.



ANNUAL REPORT
ON
THE HEALTH
OF THE BOROUGH
FOR THE YEAR 1925.



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ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Falmouth.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Health Report for the year 1925, in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health. The report is in the form of a survey report and deals with the last five years.

Physical Features and General Character of the District.

Falmouth is situated at the mouth of the River Fal, on the western shore. The older portion of the town rises in terraces from the water's edge, and looks directly over Penryn Creek and the Harbour.

In recent years the town has developed rapidly to the north and south, particularly in the direction of the sea front or Gyllyngvase, which is now a long line of magnificent private residences, hotels and boarding-houses facing south and the open bay.

Climate.

The records of bright sunshine issued by the Meteorological Office for the half-year ending June 27th, 1925, show that Falmouth was the sunniest spot in Great Britain with 985 hours. Seilly, Plymouth, Torquay and Newquay following as the next four.

The total at Falmouth for the month of June is the largest ever recorded in Great Britain in a 30-day month,

and only 1 hour and 18 minutes short of the record for July, 1911, which was, of course, a 31-day month. While the percentage of possible duration for the whole of the British Isles for 25 weeks was 35%, and for the South West of England 40%, Falmouth reached 43%. The values for the four weeks ending June 27th were :—

England, North East	..	..	40 per cent.
„ East	..	..	51 „
„ South West	..	..	69 „
Falmouth	..	..	79 „

No rain fell at Falmouth Observatory from midnight on May 29th to 3.45 a.m. on July 3rd, 1925, and although on Whit Monday some rain fell on the northern side of the town there was none on the southern.

The following are some particulars of the climate of Falmouth for the five years 1921-25. The year 1921 was one of the hottest ever recorded, the mean temperature at Falmouth being only exceeded by 0.2°F. in 1899. The frequency of maximum temperature may, therefore, be taken to be as high as any likely to be experienced. During the year there were 36 readings above 70°F. and 3 above 80°F., the highest being 83°F. on the 18th July. In 1922, the thermometer rose above 70°F. only 4 times, the highest being 75°F. on 31st May. In 1923, temperatures above 70°F. were recorded 15 times and there was one reading above 80°F., this being 85°F. on 12th July, the highest temperature ever recorded at Falmouth Observatory. In 1924, the highest temperature was 69°F. on the 6th of August. During 1925, the thermometer rose about 70°F. on 17 occasions, and above 80°F. once, the highest being 82°F. on the 12th June. The annual average readings above 70°F. was 14 for the five years. Throughout this period the temperature fell below 32°F. only 30 times, and below 30°F. only 12 times. The lowest readings were 27°F. in December, 1921, and in February, 1924. During the winter of 1922-23, the lowest reading was 33.6°F. on 30th October.

The following table of the climatic conditions may be of interest :—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Highest Maximum Temperature ..	82·8	75·4	84·9	69·0	81·9
Lowest Minimum Temperature ...	29·2	28·3	29·0	27·1	29·1
Mean Maximum Temperature ...	59·1	55·7	56·2	55·8	55·7
Mean Minimum Temperature ...	47·9	45·7	46·3	46·6	46·5
Mean of Maximum and Minimum ...	53·6	50·7	51·2	51·2	51·5
Difference from Average	2·9	0·0	0·5	0·5	0·7
No. of Days on which Rain Fell	186	211	229	215	191
Total Fall in inches	28·91	45·75	45·39	58·08	49·77
No. of Hours of Bright Sunshine ...	1816·9	1662·9	1746·9	1596·8	1819·2

Social Condition of the Inhabitants.

The inhabitants of Falmouth may be classified under the four headings :—

- (a) The Working Classes.
- (b) The Industrial Classes.
- (c) People of Independent Means.
- (d) Migratory.

Working Classes.

These necessarily form the largest class and are for the most part employed at the Docks and the Foundry.

Industrial Classes.

This class includes the shop-keepers and tradesmen generally, who are engaged in business, shipping, or in other commercial undertakings.

People of Independent Means.

For a town of its size, Falmouth, perhaps, has a larger proportion than is usual. The mildness of the climate, and the natural beauty of the neighbourhood and proximity to the sea, with facilities for yachting, etc., offer inducements to many to retire here, especially those who have spent the greater part of their lives in the tropics.

Migratory Population.

This varies considerably with the season and is represented by that fluctuating population which comes here either for reasons of health or pleasure, also the male working class population varies according to the amount of work at the Docks.

There are no industries carried on in the area which are prejudicial to the health of the community.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of Births registered during the year was 223.

Legitimate	215	M. 123	F. 92	(Total)	M. 129
Illegitimate	8.	M. 6	F. 2	(223)	F. 94

Giving a birth-rate of 17.02 per thousand.

Previous birth-rates :—

1921	1922	1923	1924
18.9	18.2	17.07	17.41

Birth-rate.

It will be noted that there is a small decline in the birth-rate as compared with previous years, also as compared with England and Wales as a whole, i.e., 18.3

In 1921 and 1922 the birth rate was higher. This can be explained by the fact that after all great wars the birth rate has temporarily gone up, to later subside to a normal level and prosperity or otherwise.

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered was 155, giving a death-rate of 12.08 per thousand, the lowest death-rate for the last fifteen years.

Previous death-rates :—

1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
16.21	13.77	13.52	12.56	18.49	19.6	18.2	20.9
	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	
	15.62	12.45	12.6	12.7	12.47	12.78	

Despite the fact that we continue to be a resort used by many people who settle here in enfeebled health, the rate is below the average for England and Wales. This year the inward and outward transfers of deaths coincided with a margin of one.

Our factor supplied by the Ministry of Health for obtaining a "Corrected Death Rate" is .790.

Natural Increase.

Births ..	..	..	..	..	223
Deaths	..	..	..	..	155
					—
Increase	..	..	..	..	68

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births.

Male	{	Legitimate	..	6	} Total
		Illegitimate	..	0	
Female	{	Legitimate	..	2	
		Illegitimate	..	0	

Giving an Infantile Mortality of 35.87.

Compared with former years :—

1921	1922	1923	1924
77.1	71.7	62.5	51.72

Here, as mentioned in my last two reports, one finds a remarkable decrease in the above figures, the average

for England and Wales being 75 per 1,000 births under one year, whereas in Falmouth in 1925 only 35.87 deaths of infants per 1,000 births under one year of age occurred.

It is well to call particular attention to this excellent indication of the equability of Falmouth's climate from the point of view of infant rearing, our mortality being less than half the average for England and Wales.

Number of Women dying in consequence of child-birth :—

	From Sepsis	..	..	..	0
	From other causes		..	..	0
Deaths from	Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	0
.. ..	Whooping Cough (all ages)		..	..	1
.. ..	Diarrhœa under 2 years of age)				1
Of the 155 Deaths					
	4 died from	Influenza.			
	3	Encephalitis Lethargica.			
	8	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.			
	25	Heart Disease			
	22	Cancer.			
	3	Violence.			

POOR LAW RELIEF.

For Year Ending March 31st, 1925.

Falmouth Union.

Average Number.		Amount Expended. £ s. d.
89	Indoor	1,135 2 1
314	Out-Relief	4,705 11 0
56	Lunatics	2,713 18 11
2	Boarded-out	69 15 0

Hospitals and Other Forms of Gratuitous Relief.

There are two Hospitals in the Borough :—

- (a) The Falmouth Cottage Hospital.
- (b) The Royal Cornwall Sailors' Home and Hospital.

Falmouth Cottage Hospital.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the above hospital and below append an excerpt from its pages. In passing I should like to call attention again to an important remark made in the Hospital Report, i.e., "The accommodation is becoming too small and it is felt that in the near future some enlargement will be necessary."

It will be noted that 66 cases outside of our boundary were treated. Very many medical cases, as opposed to surgical cases, which would obtain benefit cannot at present find accommodation owing to lack of space. I feel that enlargement is possible on the same site as the present hospital.

"The 32nd Annual Report of the Falmouth and District Hospital:—During the past twelve months there were 235 in-patients as compared with 184 in 1924. The number of operations was 240 as compared with 228; casualties and accidents, 99; dressings and out-patients, 384. Of the in-patients, 185 were cured, 36 relieved, and 14 died. The in-patients came from the following places:—Falmouth, 169; Penryn, 29; Budock, 6; Helford, 1; Flushing, 6; Constantine, 7; Mylor, 6; Mawnan, 2; Perranwell, 1; St. Mawes, 1; Devonport, 1; Par, 1; Ponsharden, 1; Plymouth, 1; Mabe, 1; Redruth, 1; Camborne, 1. There have been 121 X-ray patients, and 822 for massage during the year."

The Royal Cornwall Sailors' Home and Hospital.

The following is copied from the Directors' seventy-third Annual Report:—"The Hospital has again proved of great value to sick and injured seamen. During the year 79 patients were treated as against 89 in 1924; of these 68 were merchant seamen, 8 were members of H.M. Navy and three gunners from the R.G.A.

"The nationalities of the merchant seamen were as follow:—British, 42; Lascar, 11; German, 2; Belgian, 1; Greeks, 2; Norwegian, 5; Italian, 4; American, 31; Swedes, 2; Chinese, 1; Dutch, 1; Danes, 2. The aggregate number of days the Hospital was occupied was 2,567, as compared with 1,884 in the preceding year.

“There were cases of fractured thighs, tibias, fractured skulls, broken ribs, broken collar bones, tubercular cases, extensive burns following explosion and many severe cases of sickness. A large number of merchant seamen were also treated as outdoor patients.

“In addition to the men of H.M. Navy, very many boarders also availed themselves of the facilities offered by the Home, and the Directors are pleased to report that they have been able to assist a large number of distressed seamen who have been unable to obtain berths owing to the continued depression in shipping.

“In June the sum of £1,000 was received from the executors of the late Mrs. Caroline Oates Aver, and in September a further sum of £1,000, on account of the legacy bequeathed by her to the Institution.

“During the year the Directors gave great consideration to the question of the installation of an X-ray apparatus which it was felt was necessary in order to bring the Hospital up-to-date and supply a much-needed requirement, and in April the apparatus was duly installed. In order to do this it was necessary to alter one of the rooms adjoining the Hospital. The total cost incurred in the purchase of the apparatus and the alterations amounted to £450. The apparatus has been frequently used since its installation and has proved of great value.

“In December the sum of £50 was received from the Lasear Fund and £10 from the British Charities Association, and your Directors are gratified to know that the committees appointed to disburse these funds have thus recognised the claims of the Institution.

“They again desire to place on record the Institution's thanks to the committee of the King's George's Sailors' Fund for their magnificent help. This year's grant was £350 and it will be seen by inspection of the balance sheet that were it not for such practical sympathy it would be extremely difficult for the Institution to efficiently carry on its valuable work. Owing to a number of very long and serious hospital cases having been treated this year, for which no payments have been made, the contribution is

extremely welcome. Two of the cases alone amounted to 281 and 217 days respectively.

“The Directors are grateful to the subscribers, to Messrs. Cox & Co., and to the other donors for their contributions and trust that during the year all those who have the welfare of the mercantile marine at heart will show their practical sympathy with the Institution.”

Drainage and Sewerage.

At present the sewage is disposed of by :—

- (a) Two pairs of sedimentation tanks.
- (b) Septic tank.
- (c) Crude sewage on to the foreshore.

The sedimentation tanks are situated at the Prince of Wales Pier and at the Bar. From these, the strained effluent flows direct into the harbour and the solid residue periodically evacuated and taken out to sea. These tanks receive the sewage from the bottom of the town, and that portion of it which overlooks the harbour.

The septic tank receives the sewage from the southern slope of the upper part of the town, and the purified effluent passes direct into Falmouth Bay.

Sewage Disposal.

As this report goes to press I am happy to be able to state that I am informed that the new scheme will be completed and in operation within a month. In this scheme all the sewage will be conducted out to sea, with the exception of the contents of one septic tank from which purified effluent passes out to sea and is in no way to be considered a menace to health.

This means that all outfalls previously discharging on to the harbour foreshores are now done away with. These outfalls have, in the past, been rightly and seriously criticised, and it is a great relief to be able to emphasise the fact that they are now non-existent.

Closet Accommodation.

The Borough is well supplied with water closets, but certain dwellings situated below the level of the main sewer are supplied with pail closets : which are periodically emptied.

There are also four houses on the outskirts of the Borough which have privies and pits, as there is no sewer in the vicinity of these dwellings. All these premises will be connected to a water carriage system when the new drainage scheme is completed.

Scavenging.

All house refuse is collected by the Corporation employees under the supervision of the sanitary inspector. In some parts of the town it is removed three times a week and in other parts twice a week. The main street is cleared daily. The refuse is carted to the destructor at the Beacon, and there consumed.

Sanitary Inspections of the District.

Total No. of visits of inspection	..	..	..	1,003
Total No. of legal notices served	..	..	..	
Total No. of preliminary notices served	..	..	..	132
No. of tests applied to drains and soil pipes	..	..	..	219
New Interceptors fixed	..	..	..	36
New water-closets built	..	..	..	19
No. of rooms disinfected	..	..	..	47
New traps fixed	..	..	..	120
Choked drains cleared	..	..	..	60
Bakehouses cleansed and limewashed	..	..	..	13
Cowsheds limewashed	..	..	..	3

FOOD.

Milk Supply.

The greater part of the milk supplied to the town comes from the parishes of Mabe, Constantine and Budock.

Wholesomeness of Milk Produced.

No cases of infection traceable to the milk supply have been notified during the year.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Inspeetions have been made of all the cowsheds, dairies and milk purveyors' utensils in the Borough and the regulations relating to cleanliness, limewashing and general sanitation have been enforced.

There are now only three cowsheds left within the Borough.

Food Inspection.

Inspeetions have been made of the shops in the Borough for the examination of meat and food supplies and also with regard to the condition of the premises. Small quantities of unsound meat, fruit and fish have been voluntarily surrendered by the tradesmen for destruction.

The Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924, have been enforced and examination of the carcases of beasts after slaughter have been made.

Bakehouses.

There are thirteen bakehouses in the Borough. These premises have been cleansed and limewashed twice during the year, in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

Frequent inspeetions were made during the year, and in every case, when it was necessary to call upon the owners to remedy any defect, our demands were complied with forthwith.

Slaughterhouses.

There is one licensed slaughterhouse in the Borough, at which the regulations as to periodical limewashing, cleansing, etc., have been carried out. Inspeetions have been made during the year, as many as possible during the time of slaughter.

	In 1920.	In January, 1925.	In December, 1925.
Registered	0	0	0
Licensed	0	0	1
Total	0	0	1

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Article.	No. of Samples taken.		Extent and Form of Adulteration.	Reported for Prosecution.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Fines Inflicted.			Remarks.
		Genuine. Adulterated.					£	s.	d.	
Milk (new)	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" "	-	1	Mixed with 25·5 % water	1	-	1	3	0	0	-
" "	-	1	Mixed with 5·6 % water	1	-	1	1	0	0	-
Cream ..	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Margarine	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ice Cream	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lard ...	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vinegar ..	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saffron ..	1	-	2·1 % excess moisture ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	Cautioned

Notifiable Cases During the Year.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	7	2	2
Scarlet Fever	3	—	—
Enteric Fever	1	1	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	6	3	2

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	4	2	—	1	1	1	—	—
25	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
35	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
45	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	1
Totals	11	9	—	1	6	2	1	1

Supply and Use of Diphtheria Anti-toxin.

In all suspicious cases, practitioners have a free hand to obtain Diphtheria Anti-toxin from the local chemists, the same being chargeable to the Authority.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

Six cases notified during the year.

Compared with former years :—

1921	1922	1923	1924
0	0	0	3

Bacteriological Aids to Diagnosis, and Extent to which this is Utilised.

Locally there are no facilities. The method adopted is to send pathological specimens, sputum, swabs, etc., to

the Laboratories of Pathology and Public Health, 6, Harley Street, London, and to the Redruth Clinical Laboratories.

Action to Discover Contacts.

The practice is to obtain swabs from all contacts, and be guided by the bacteriological report.

Small-pox.

No cases have been reported during the year.

Sanitary Administration.

The staff engaged in Sanitary Work for the Borough consists of:—

One Sanitary Inspector and an Assistant.

One Health Visitor.

A Nurse and Caretaker for the Isolation Hospital.

General Statistics.

Area (acres)	875
Population { for death-rate 12,832 } ..	13,322
{ for birth rate 13,102 } ..	
Number of inhabited houses	2,762
Number of families or separate occupiers ..	2,044
Rateable value	£61,341 11s. 7d.
Sum represented by a penny rate ..	£236

Factories and Workshops.

During the year 141 inspections have been made of factories, workshops and workplaces in the Borough. Inspections of these premises have been made as often as possible, and where nuisances were discovered verbal notices to the responsible persons have been sufficient to get our demands complied with. The one laundry in the Borough has been kept under supervision and has always been found in a very satisfactory condition.

Periodical inspections have been made of the bakehouses and the linewashing and cleansing of these premises has been carried out periodically. There are no underground bakehouses in the Borough.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1925, for the Borough of Falmouth

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	17	7	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	98	25	—
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	26	5	—
Total	141	37	—

2.—Defects Found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	Number of Prosecutions. (5)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	16	16	—	—
Want of ventilation	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	—	—	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
{ not separate for sexes	2	2	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-house (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.)				
Total	20	20	—	—

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

Sanitary.

A test of all house drains in the Borough was commenced during the year; in all, the drains of 43 houses have been tested, and where defects were found the drains had to be either relaid or exposed and made sound. In many cases new interceptors and fresh-air-inlets had to be provided.

Housing and General Sanitation.

Dr. Lethem, Ministry of Health, visited Falmouth on October 28th and 29th.

Condemned Houses.

Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.
1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
111	111	111	111	109

The chief defects discovered by house inspection were deficiency of water closets to meet existing requirements, structural defects and defective drains.

It will be noted that in the last five years only two of the long-standing list of condemned houses have been dealt with from a closing order standpoint.

The lack of accommodation and the necessity for continual building is shown by the 302 unsatisfied applicants at the date of this report.

Water Supply.

The population of Falmouth is supplied entirely through the Waterworks on the intermittent system. The supply is turned off only on Wednesday afternoons to allow for the carrying out of any necessary repairs.

THE COUNTIES AND PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES.

The Counties Public Health Laboratories.

91, Queen Victoria Street,
London, E.C.4.

Physical, Chemical and Bacteriological Data.

Relating to 2 samples of Water received Nov. 25/25

from Falmouth Water Co., Labelled (1), High Level Supply, 11.35 a.m.; (2), Low Level Supply, 11.55 a.m.

Taken by F. Lewis. Witness: J. Williams. Date, 24-11-25.

All Results in Parts per 100,000.

	1.	2.
Turbidity	Fairly bright.	Fairly bright.
Colour	10°	10°
Odour	None	None
Reaction Ph.	6.5 Neutral	6.5
Electric Conductivity at 20°C.	160	151
Total Solids, 180°C. ..	10.7 approx.	10.1 approx.
Chlorine in Chlorides ..	2.64	2.55
Nitrogen in Nitrates ..	0.24	0.32
Nitrites or Free Chlorine ..	Absent	Absent
Hardness: Permanent ..	3°	3°
Temporary ..	—	—
Total	3°	3°
Lead, Copper, Zine, Iron ..	Absent	Absent
Free Ammonia	0.0018	0.0018
Albuminoid Ammonia ..	0.0068	0.0072
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours		
at 37°C... ..	0.145	0.160

No. of Baeteria per c.c.:

On gelatine in 3 days ..	16	9
On agar in 24 hours ..	6	1
The Baeillus Coli.	Absent in	Absent in
	100e.	100e.e.
The Baeillus Enteritidis		
Sporogenes	Present in	Absent in
	100e.	100e.e.

Report. There is very little difference between these waters. The chemical results are very satisfactory and the bacteriological results also. The water supplied is pure and wholesome, very soft and well adapted for all the purposes for which it may be required, domestic or manufacturing.

Date.—Dec. 2/25. Signed—John Thresh and John F. Beale.

COPY.

The Counties Public Health Laboratories,
91, Queen Victoria Street,
London, E.C.4.

Physical, Chemical and Bacteriological Data.

Relating to 2 samples of water received on March 28th, 1924, from Falmouth Waterworks Co., Labelled (1), High Level Supply, at 2.15 p.m.; and (2), Low Level Supply, at 2.30 p.m.

Taken by F. Lewis. Witness: J. Williams. Date, May 27th, 1924.

All Results in Parts per 100,000.

			1.	2.
Turbidity	..	..	Trace only of vegetable debris in both.	
Colour	..	..	Normal	Yellow tint
Odour	..	..	None	None
Reaction	..	..	Neutral	Neutral
Total Solids, 180°C.		..	14.2	15.0
Chlorine in Chlorides		..	2.7	2.75
Nitrogen in Nitrates		..	0.0	0.1
Nitrites of Free Chlorine		..	Absent	Absent

	1	2
Hardness : Permanent .. —	—	—
Temporary .. —	—	—
Total 3	3	3
Lead, Copper, Zine, Iron ..	Trace of Iron	Trace of Iron
Free Ammonia 0.0024	0.0024	0.0030
Albuminoid Ammonia .. 0.0060	0.0060	0.0110
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours		
at 37°C... .. 0.066	0.066	0.202
No. of Baeteria per c.c. : ..		
On gelatine in 3 days ..		
On agar in 24 hours ..		
The Baecillus Coli		
The Baecillus Enteritidis		
Sporogenes		

Report.—The High Level supply contains less organic matter in solution than the Low Level, but in the latter it is not at all excessive for a water from a moor-land source.

Both are suitable waters for domestic and general use. As the samples sent for bacteriological examination are always satisfactory, there is no doubt that the supply is an excellent one.

June 2/24. John C. Thresh and John F. Beale.

COPY.

Counties Public Health Laboratories,
91, Queen Victoria Street,
London, E.C.4.
August 24th, 1925.

John C. Thresh, M.D. D.Se., etc.

John F. Beale, B.A., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., etc.

Report on the Bacteriological Examination of a sample of water received on August 19th, 1925, from Falmouth Waterworks Co.

Source.—(1), High Level Supply; (2), Low Level Supply. Both taken by F. Lewis. Witness: J. Williams.

	1.	2.
Number of organisms per cubic centimeter capable of growing upon nutrient gelatine at 20°C. in 3 days	Liquifies the jelly	48
Number of organisms per cubic centimeter capable of growing upon agar at 37°C. in 1 day	1	7
Smallest quantity of water giving acid and gas in bile-salt glucose broth ..	100 c.c.	100 c.c.
Smallest quantity of water giving gas in bile-salt lactose broth	ditto	ditto
Smallest quantity of water containing the <i>Bacillus Coli Communis</i>	ditto	ditto
Smallest quantity of water giving the reaction of the <i>Bacillus Enteritidis Sporogenes</i>	ditto	ditto

Remarks.—Both these waters can be certified as pure and wholesome. No 1 contains a few bacteria which liquify jelly rapidly, but which are not of an objectionable type. Such bacteria have been widely prevalent this summer.

John C. Thresh and John F. Beale.

COPY.

Counties Public Health Laboratories,
91, Queen Victoria Street,
London, E.C.4.

March 23rd, 1925.

John C. Thresh, M.D. D.Sc., etc.

John F. Beale, B.A., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., etc.

Report on the Bacteriological Examination of a sample

of Water received March 18th, 1925, from Falmouth Water works Co.

Source.—(1), Low Level Supply, 1.30 p.m.; (2), High Level Supply, 1.40 p.m. Taken by F. Lewis. Witness: J. Williams. 17-3-25.

	1.	2.
Number of organisms per cubic centimeter capable of growing upon nutrient gelatine at 20°C. in 3 days	286	28
Number of organisms per cubic centimeter capable of growing upon agar at 37°C. in 1 day	39	4
Smallest quantity of water giving acid and gas in bile-salt glucose broth ..	50 c.c.	Absent in 100 c.c.
Smallest quantity of water giving gas in bile-salt lactose broth	Absent in 100 c.c.	Ditto
Smallest quantity of water containing the <i>Bacillus Coli Communis</i>	Ditto	Ditto
Smallest quantity of water giving the reaction of the <i>Bacillus Enteritidis Sporogenes</i>	Ditto	100 c.c.

Remarks.—These waters are both satisfactory, but the High Level Supply is the better of the two. Both are pure and wholesome and suitable for the purpose of a public supply.

John C. Thresh and John F. Beale.

Rivers and Streams Pollution.

In 1925 grave doubts entered the minds of the Corporation, officials of the Health Department and Surveyor's

Department, regarding the question of the purity of the streams entering Swanpool. These doubts were raised on account of an increasing population which suddenly commenced to spring up under the Swanvale Housing Scheme, in the East Kerrier Rural District and for which population no adequate drainage scheme was in operation.

I feel it my duty, as a matter of record, to append the following analysis of samples taken within our Borough boundary from the streams mentioned, also to call attention to the very frank remarks of our London analyst on the condition of the lower stream entering Swanpool. It is urgently to be hoped that 1926 will see an end to this nuisance, which if not taken seriously in hand, and vigorous action adopted, will be a source of spreading disease in our Borough and go to breaking down the splendid average health statistics which we have been able to put forward for so many years.

LABORATORIES OF PATHOLOGY AND PUBLIC HEALTH,

6, Harley Street, London, W.1.

20th June, 1925.

Bacterioscopic Analysis of a Sample of Water.

To Dr. Macdonald.

I beg to submit the following Report on the Sample of Water marked No. 1. Lower Stream, received on 13th June.

Colonies in standard nutrient gelatine at 18°C. uncountable incubated for 48 hours.

Colonies in distilled water gelatine at 18°C. 375,000 approx. per c.c. incubated for 48 hours.

Colonies in nutrient agar at 37.5°C. 34,000 approx. per c.c. incubated for 48 hours.

Ratio of "blood heat" to cool organisms :: 1 : 11.

B. Coli Communis and *Streptococcus faecalis* were both present in all quantities of water tested, down to one-tenth of a c.c.

Remarks.—This water is grossly polluted with sewage and on bacteriological ground totally unfit for drinking and domestic supplies.

(Signed) G. L. Eastes.

Report on Chemical Analysis of a Sample of Water.

To Dr. Macdonald.

I beg to submit the following Report on the chemical analysis of a sample of water marked No. 1, received from you on June 13th, 1925.

Note.—The results are expressed in grains per gallon.

Free ammonia	..	..	..	0.063
Albumenoid ammonia	..	..	..	0.007
Total solid residue (dried at 220 F.)	..	..	..	20.3
Chlorine	..	..	..	3.0
Equivalent to Sodium chloride	..	..	..	4.95
Nitrites	..	..	..	Present
Nitrogen existing as nitrates	..	..	..	1.05
Hardness. Total hardness	..	..	..	12.5
Permanent hardness (after boiling)	..	..	..	7.0
Lead or Copper	..	..	..	Absent
Oxygen absorbed in 1 hour	..	..	..	0.65

Physical characters:—Slightly coloured, some suspended matter present. Unpleasant odour.

Microscopical characters:—Deposit chiefly ferruginous in nature and teeming with various forms of infusoria.

Remarks.—This water is totally unfit to use as a source of domestic supply. The high figure given by the free ammonia present, the presence of nitrites and the amount

of nitrate indicate that the sample is little better than dilute sewage effluent. The result of the microscopical examination is also in full accord with this conclusion.

Signed—J. F. Rowland, Consulting Analyst.

LABORATORIES OF PATHOLOGY AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

6, Harley Street, London, W.1.

20th June, 1925.

Bacterioscopic Analysis of a Sample of Water.

To Dr. Macdonald.

I beg to submit the following Report on the Sample of Water marked No. 2, Higher Stream, received on 13th June.

Colonies in standard nutrient gelatine at 18°C., 41,000 per c.c. incubated for 48 hours.

Colonies in distilled water gelatine at 18°C., 64,000 per c.c., incubated for 48 hours.

Colonies in nutrient agar at 37.5°C., 993 per c.c., incubated for 48 hours.

Ratio of "blood heat" to cool organisms : : 1 : 64.

B.Coli Communis was present in all quantities of water tested down to one-tenth of a c.c.

Streptococci found in 0.1 c.c. and all larger quantities : the Streptococci present do not belong to the faecalis type, but to non-pathogenic strains.

Remarks.—On the bacteriological evidence this is not a

pure water, but complete evidence of pollution with sewage is lacking. It is not a desirable source for a drinking supply.

(Signed) G. L. Eastes.

Report on Chemical Analysis of a Sample of Water.

To Dr. Macdonald.

I beg to submit the following Report on the chemical analysis of a sample of water marked No. 2, received from you on June 13th, 1925.

Note. The results are expressed in grains per gallon.

Free ammonia	..	..	..	0.007
Albumenoid ammonia	..	..	..	0.0028
Total solid residue (dried at 220F.)	..			23.8
Chlorine	..	..	..	3.5
Equivalent to Sodium chloride	..			5.8
Nitrites	..	..	..	Absent
Nitrogen existing as nitrates	..	..		0.1
Hardness. Total Hardness	..	..		16.7
Permanent hardness (after boiling)				9.0
Lead or Copper	..	..	..	Absent
Oxygen absorbed in 1 hour	..	..		0.38

Physical characters:—Clear, some suspended matter present.

Microscopical Character:—Indications of ctenophore growth, infusoria present.

Remarks.—The results of the examination indicate that the water is open to grave suspicion of pollution; however, the figures given above are not definite enough to condemn it on the chemical examination alone, but it is certainly not a water to pass as satisfactory.

Signed—J. F. Rowland, Consulting Analyst.

CHILD WELFARE.

The voluntary workers at the Child Welfare continue to give us the benefit of their energies and, as will be noted by the remarks made on Infantile Mortality, their work continues to be invaluable.

Opthalmia Neonatorum.—(Nil.)

**Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals and
Other Institutions Available for the District.**

The Falmouth District Nursing Association supports two nurses :— (1) a Queen's nurse ; (2) a certified midwife ; the Borough Council in each case contributing £25 towards their maintenance. The services of these nurses are for the poor or for those whose position will not permit of the expense of hiring a nurse privately.

Midwives.—Apart from the midwife employed by the Falmouth District Nursing Association, there are three certified midwives. The former only is partially supported by the Borough Council.

Clinic and Treatment Centre.

Name.	Situation.	Accommodation.	Provided by.
Maternity & Child Welfare	14, Clare Terrace	5 Rooms	Child Welfare Association, aided by Town Council
School Clinic	14, Clare Terrace	5 Rooms	Education Authority
Venereal Clinic.	Funds allocated by County Council, but no premises available.		

Hospitals.— Provided or subsidised by the local authority or by the County Council.

The Tehidy Sanatorium for Tuberculosis (supported by the County Council).

Maternity.—None.

Children.—None.

Fever.—The Falmouth Isolation Hospital, with accommodation for 30 patients. It is hoped that in the coming year the plans, as prepared by Mr. H. E. Tresidder, for the alterations to the second half of the Hospital will be put in hand.

Small Pox.—Ditto.

The other hospitals are supported entirely by private contributions and receive no help from the Borough Council.

Institution for unmarried mothers.—None.

Illegitimate infants.—None.

Homeless children.—None.

Ambulance Facilities.—The improvised ambulance for infectious diseases is still in use and gave very satisfactory service last year. I again would keep before the Council the suggestion that it is advisable to acquire a second-hand horse ambulance, of the usual type, at the earliest opportunity.

For accident cases St. John Ambulance Brigade ambulance is usually available.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a)	Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
(b)	With State assistance under the Housing Acts 1919 to 1923 :—	..	..	..	..	..	..	

(i) By the Local Authority	12
(ii) By other bodies or persons	3

1. *Unfit dwelling-houses.*

Inspection :—

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	367
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 ..	41
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	111
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	69

2. *Remedy of defects without service of formal notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	69
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—	
(a) By owners	1
(b) By local authority in default of owners	

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	2
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B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.. .. .	132
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(a) By owners	132
(b) By local authority in default of owners.. .. .	—

C.—Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of closing orders ..	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were made ..	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ..	—
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ..	—

SUMMARY.

It will be noticed that instead of the usual summary, notes are appended to statistical tables as they arise.

There is a series of graphs in the report which cover Zymotic History of the Borough for the last five years. These point to an apparent increase of tuberculosis, which is explained by many of the cases being in Falmouth on account of climatic advantages.

The only other outstanding condition during the five years was the 1923-24 Scarlet Fever Epidemic, which was imported from without the Borough, and which showed the necessity of keeping sufficient isolation hospital accommodation.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. O. MACDONALD.

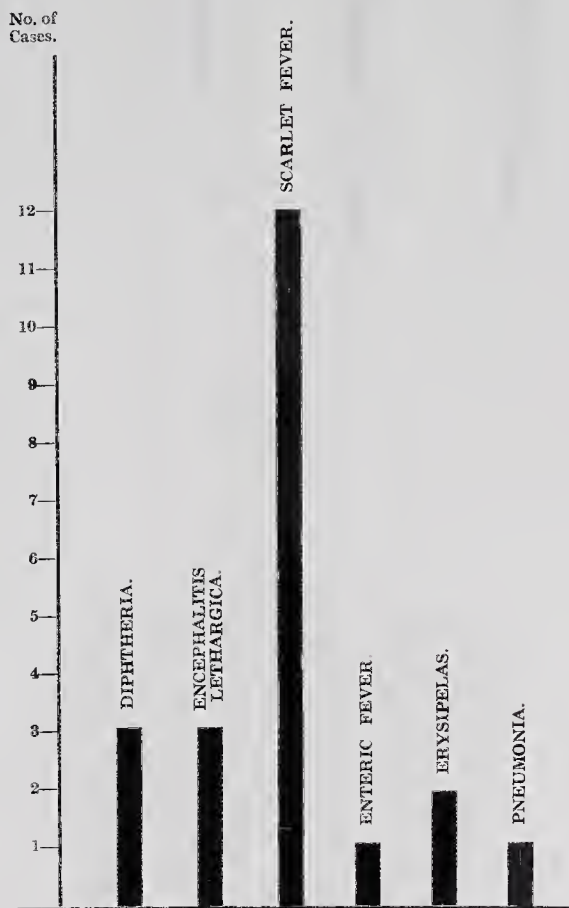
M.B., Ch. B., Ed., D.P.H., R.C.P.S., R.F.P.S.,

Ed. and Glasg.

1923.



1924.



1925.

